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AMBABEL DAR ES SALAAM TO BELEXB BRU  
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PLEASE RPT  
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AMBABEL NAIROBI  
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SUBJECT C SWINNEN MISSION, INTERVIEW WITH FORMER MINAFET OF  
RWANDA, A GASANA – TUESDAY 24/05/94

1. ATTACK OF 6 APRIL

- 1.1 EVEN BEFORE THE MEETING OF 6 APRIL IN DAR ES SALAAM, PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA WAS ALREADY PREPARING TO ESTABLISH THE TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS, PROBABLY WITHIN THE THREE DAYS OF THE SUMMIT. ACCORDING TO THE MINISTER FOR THE INTERIOR MUNYAZESA, MUGENZI (MIN FOR COMMERCE, [illegible] WAS GOING TO BE RELEASED BY THE PRESIDENT IN ORDER TO UNFREEZE THE SITUATION, AND A FEW MINISTRIES WERE GOING TO REMAIN INITIALLY WITHOUT HOLDERS.
- 1.2 MUNYAZESA FURTHERMORE TRUSTED GASANA WITH THE INFORMATION THAT ON THE EVENING OF 6 APRIL BEFORE THE PRESIDENTIAL DEPARTURE FROM DAR, HE QUESTIONED COLONEL SEGATWA (BROTHER-IN-LAW OF THE PRESIDENT, DIED IN THE ATTACK) ABOUT THE RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES OF A NOCTURNAL FLIGHT. SEGATWA ALLEGEDLY ANSWERED THAT QUOTE THE FRENCH PILOTS WERE TRAINED TO AVOID MISSILE FIRE AND THAT THERE WAS THEREFORE NO RISK UNQUOTE. MUNYAZESA FURTHERMORE SPECIFIED TO GASANA THAT ONLY THE FPR, THE BELGIANS (SIC) AND THE PRESIDENTIAL GUARD (THEREFORE NOT THE RWANDAN ARMY) HAD SAM-7 MISSILES, ADDING THAT QUOTE THE PRESIDENTIAL GUARD DID NOT KNOW HOW TO USE THEM UNQUOTE.
- 1.3 GASANA FURTHERMORE MENTIONED THE EXISTENCE OF A SECURITY CORRIDOR RESERVED FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL AEROPLANE, GOING FROM BICUMBI VIA MASAKA THEN TO KIGALI TO THE PRESIDENT'S RESIDENCE. THIS OBLIGED THE AEROPLANE TO UNDERTAKE MANOEUVRES ABOVE KIGALI IN ORDER TO REDIRECT IN RELATION TO THE LANDING STRIP.
- 1.4 ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF WAS ON BOARD PRESIDENTIAL AEROPLANE IN REPLACEMENT FOR MINADEF, THEN IN WEST AFRICA. HE HAD IN THE PAST EXPRESSED THE DESIRE TO AVOID THE RESUMPTION OF FIGHTING AT ANY COST. GASANA CONSIDERED MINADEF BIZIMANA AND COLLEAGUES THE MINAFET, PLAN, HEALTH AND COLONEL BAGOSORA AS KEY MEN OF THE INTERIM REGIME.